technical specifications for equipment/material and construction standards for REC for adoption in the project implementation/execution.

* Detailed Project Report (DPRs) are being prepared district-wise for the purpose of turnkey implementation.

Statement

Progress of RGGVY in Rajasthan

As on 16.11.2007

Sl. No.	Year	No. of villages wherein works for electrification have been reported by implemeting agency			No. of RHHs covered in cl. BPL	No. of BPL HHs covered	Amount released Rs. In crores
		Un-electrified	Electrified	Total			
1.	2004-05	0	0	0	0	0	9.33
2.	2005-06	230	0	230	505	0	47.20
3.	2006-07	765	570	1335	10514	9236	87.19
4.	2007-08	366	0	366	233759	125544	86.56
	TOTAL	**1361**	**570**	**1931**	**244778**	**134780**	**230.28**

Incentives for power consumers

†696. SHRI KESHUBHAI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the actual consumers have to bear the burden of power theft in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is contemplating to take any special steps in the favour of honest power consumers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when these would be implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Theft of eletricity is one of the major contributing factors impacting the financial health of power utilities adversely. This also contributes to poor quality of power supply; frequent load shedding and unscheduled outages. To enable effective control of theft of electricity, the Electricity Act, 2003 has incorporated specific provisions for detection of theft, speedy trial of theft related offences and also for the recovery of the charges of electricity stolen. Based on the feedback from the States and other stakeholders, the Central Government has fruther strengthened the theft related provisions in the Act by enacting the Electricity (Amendment) Act, 2007. By this Amendment Act, theft of electricity has been explicitly made a congnizable and non-bailable offence. The distribution licensees have been empowered to disconnect the supply of electricity upon detection of theft. The penalty for repeated theft of electricity by large consumers has also been enhanced.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Central Government has also requested the State Governments to take steps for effectively curbing power theft and has advised the introduction of suitable incentive schemes for such informers who give clue of the source of theft of electricity. The reward in such a scheme is to be linked to the amount or recoveries that can be effected in the cases reported. The State Governments have also been requested to expedite setting up of special courts as provided in the Electricity Act, 2003 for speedy disposal of theft related cases.

The Central Government has a national consensus to focus a time bound programme for reduction of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses. In the Chief Ministers' Conference held under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister on 28th May 2007, a unanimous resolution was adopted which inter alia included the commitment of the States, with appropriate assistance from the Centre, to establish the necessary baseline data of information technology applications for energy accounting and auditing, and for ensuring a resolute elimination of electricity theft. In the Conference, the States committed themselves to achieve and sustain reduction in the overall AT&C losses in the next five years.

Demand and Supply of Power

697. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the annual demand and supply of power in the country, at present;

(b) the total generation of power in the country; and

(c) the steps taken to achieve the target fixed by Government to generate sufficient power in the country?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The details of annual demand and supply of power in the country during the year 2006-07 are as under:

	Energy			Peak		
Year	Requirement	Availability	Shortage	Demand	Met	Shortage
	(MU)	(MU)	(%)	(MW)	(MW)	(%)
2006-07	6,90,587	6,24,495	9.6	1,00,715	86,818	13.8

MU- Million Units MW— Mega Watt

(b) and (c) The actual generation of electricity during the current year (upto October, 2007) including import of power from Bhutan was 419.9 BU.

The following steps are being taken to generate sufficient power in the country:

(i) The National Electricity Policy envisages "Power to all by 2012" and power capita availability of power to be increased to over 1,000 units by 2011-12. To achieve this, a total capacity addition of about 1,00,000 MW is required during 10th and 11th Plan period. Based on the 10th Plan actual capacity addition of 21,180 MW, a capacity addition of 78,577 MW has been proposed during 11th Plan to meet the power requirement in the country.